

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE

July 11, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President and Members of the Senate Twenty-Fourth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

Re: House Bill No. 1014 HD2 SD1 CD1

On July 10, 2007, House Bill No. 1014, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Education" became law without my signature, pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the State Constitution.

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate \$585,000 in Fiscal Year 2007-2008 to the Department of Education for five complex areas for support services including professional development, alignment of curriculum, and mentoring in schools. This bill also appropriates \$165,000 in Fiscal Year 2007-2008 to the Department of Education for the Teach for America program.

This bill raises two concerns.

First, appropriations for professional development of teachers in the classroom should be under the jurisdiction, decision making, and expending authority of the school principal. This bill contradicts the spirit of Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, weighted student formula, and control by the principal over school-level funding priorities and programs. It also fails to recognize that the Department of Education has funds within its base budget for professional development, training, and curriculum alignment.

Second, this bill also appropriates general funds to the Department of Education for the Teach for America program. The Teach for America project is currently funded by federal dollars, pursuant to the No Child Left Behind law, and should continue to be funded in that manner because this federal funding source will be ongoing for several years.

The University of Hawaii has also expressed concern that they should have been the designated expending agency for the appropriation contained in this bill, and not the Department of Education. The University of Hawaii is the responsible state agency for training the participants in the Teach for America program so these teachers can obtain a teaching certificate in Hawaii.

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For the foregoing reasons, I allowed House Bill No. 1014 to become law as Act 280, effective July 10, 2007, without my signature.

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGLE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007 STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 280 H.B. NO. H.D. 2 S.D. 1 C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- SECTION 1. The legislature finds that partly as a result 1 of the accountability movement and the demands of the federal No 2 3 Child Left Behind law, school complex areas and district offices 4 have often focused more on compliance rather than support services. Complex area schools need greater resources that 5 support schools and teachers to create more successful teaching 6 7 throughout the complex area. The legislature further finds that a complete support 8 9 system for teaching includes more personnel and funding for 10 professional development programs coordinated at the complex 11 area level, mentoring for new teachers at the schools, and funds for teacher professional development in key areas of the 12 13 curriculum. The purpose of this Act is to provide funding for support 14
- 15 services and funding for teacher professional development within
 16 the department of education at the complex area level.

- 1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$585,000 or so much
- 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 for not
- 4 more than five complex areas to establish the capacity to
- 5 coordinate and expand complex-level resources for support
- 6 services including professional development, alignment of
- 7 curriculum, and mentoring in schools; provided that funds
- 8 appropriated in this section shall be allocated to each complex
- 9 area based on the per pupil enrollments in each complex area.
- 10 The complexes selected shall be those that have schools where
- 11 there is a high turnover of teachers or hard-to-fill vacancies
- 12 and have few other resources for professional development.
- 13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 14 education for the purposes of this Act.
- 15 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
- 16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$165,000 or so much
- 17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 for the
- 18 Teach for America Program.
- 19 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 20 education for the purposes of this Act.
- 21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.